

REMARKS

English translations of the Japanese patent documents are not readily available to Applicant's attorney, but may be provided if required by the Examiner. In this regard, English translations of Claim 11 and the specification at paragraph number [0040], providing a detailed description of Figure 10 of the JP 07-99629 reference are enclosed, and U.S. Patent No. 5,481,303 is listed as being in the same patent family as the JP 6-350950 reference. English abstracts obtained from a commercial database for each of the Japanese patent documents also are enclosed as English language statements of relevance for the Examiner's consideration.

FEE STATEMENT

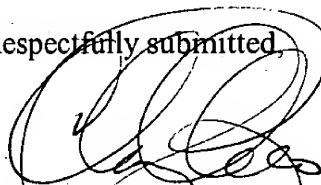
The Commissioner is authorized to charge the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) and any deficiency in or overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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IN FIGURE 1

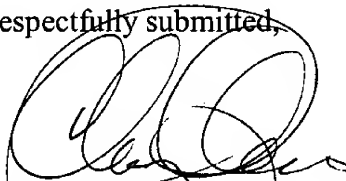
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REMARKS

Applicant submits the proposed amendments to the drawings merely conform the original drawings and the specification, and therefore merely are formal in nature. No new matter has been added. Favorable consideration and approval of the proposed drawing amendments respectfully are requested.

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REMARKS

The claims now pending in the application are Claims 1, 2 and 11. Claim 1 is the only independent claim. Claims 3 to 10 and 12 to 27 have been cancelled herein. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended herein.

In the Official Action dated March 24, 2004, the drawings were objected to on formal grounds. Claims 3 to 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 1.75, as being in improper dependent form. Claims 1, 9, 11, 16, 19 to 22, 24, 25 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0000969 A1 (Ohta); Claims 2 to 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over the Ohta '969 publication, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,075,889 (Hamilton); Claims 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over the Ohta '969 publication, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,256,063 (Saito); Claims 8, 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over the Ohta '969 publication, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,239,837 (Yamada); Claims 10, 12, 14, 15, 22 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over the '969 publication, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,633,976 (Ogino); and Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as unpatentable over the '969 publication, further in view of the Ogino '976 patent, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,249,313 (Nishi). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and rejections respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The rejections of the claims over the cited art respectfully are traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, Claims 3 to 10 and 12 to 27 have been cancelled, and Claims 1, 2 and 11 have been amended herein more clearly to recite various novel features of the present invention, with particular attention to the Examiner's comments. Support for the proposed amendments may be found in the original application. No new matter has been added.

The present invention relates to a novel apparatus for capturing a photographic image. In one aspect, as now recited in independent Claim 1, the present invention relates to an apparatus for capturing a photographic image, storing the captured image in a buffer memory, reading the image stored in the buffer memory, and recording the read image on a recording medium; the apparatus comprises a bar-type indication display device for indicating on a display an adjustment value of exposure before shooting, and a control device for controlling the display device to change the display within a predetermined period of time after the shooting according to a remaining number of images which can be recorded on the buffer memory.

Applicant submits that the prior art fails to anticipate the present invention. Moreover, Applicant submits that there are differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

The Ohta '969 publication relates to an electronic still camera and method of operating same, and disclose a still camera for recording an image signal in compressed state in a memory medium, such as a memory card, a calculation circuit for calculating the remaining number of still recordable frames in the memory medium, and a display for simultaneously displaying a number of already recorded frames and the remaining number of still recordable frames in order to inform the photographer of the remaining state of the memory card. However, Applicant submits that the Ohta '969 publication fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-described features of the present invention. Nowhere is the Ohta '969 publication understood to disclose or suggest the features of a bar-type indication display device for indicating on a display an adjustment value of exposure before shooting, and a control device for controlling the display device to change the display within a predetermined period of time after the shooting according to a remaining

number of images which can be recorded on the buffer memory, as disclosed and claimed in the present application.

Applicant has reviewed the remaining art cited by the Examiner against the claims, and believes that this art fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-described features of the present invention, or add anything to the Ohta '969 publication that would make obvious the claimed invention.

For the above reasons, Applicants submit that independent Claim 1 is allowable over the cited art.

Claims 2 and 11 depend from Claim 1, and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional features in combination with the features of independent Claim 1, and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.

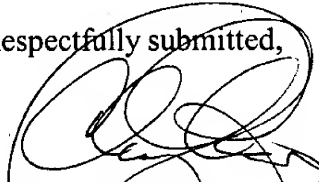
By separate paper filed concurrently herewith, Applicant has filed an Information Disclosure Statement identifying additional information that may be deemed pertinent to the present invention. Applicant has reviewed the information and believes that the present pending claims are allowable thereover.

Finally, by separate paper filed concurrently herewith, Applicant has submitted a Request for Approval to Amend the Drawings and Submission of Corrected Formal Drawings. In that Request/Submission, Applicants have amended Fig. 1, as requested by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submits that the application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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